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SUBJECT: GVN REQUESTS USG SUPPORT FOR ACTION
AGAINST TWO NGOS AT UPCOMING UN ECOSOC

1. (U) SUMMARY. The GVN is seeking USG support to deny consultative status to two NGOs at the upcoming ECOSOC session in New York. The GVN considers the Free Vietnam Alliance and the Transnational Radical Party to be terrorist organizations with the aim of either forcibly overthrowing the GVN or establishing a separatist state in the Central Highlands. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) On June 10, Assistant Foreign Minister Nguyen Duc Hung presented a diplomatic note (text in para 5) to Charge requesting USG support for the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) not to endorse the application for consultative status of the Free Vietnam Alliance (FVA) and to suspend for three years the consultative status of the Transnational Radical Party (TRP). The ECOSOC session will begin June 28.

3. (U) In addition to the note, AFM Hung provided an aide memoire (text in para 6) and 16 4x6 glossy photos to support claims that the FVA and the TRP are actively working to destabilize the GVN. The photos and the printed material will be forwarded to EAP/BCLTV by pouch.

4. (U) Charge emphasized that the USG does not support any organization that would seek to overthrow the GVN by force, engage in, or advocate the use of violence against a government with which the USG had diplomatic relations. He also reminded Hung of the Ambassador's recent statement that the USG would not support a "State of Degar."

5. (U) Begin text (MFA's "unofficial translation"):

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America in Hanoi and has the honor to inform the latter as follows:

(1) On May 17 and 21, 2004 the Committee on Non-governmental Organizations of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) decided to recommend to the ECOSOC not to endorse the application of the Free Vietnam Alliance (FVA) for a consultative (sic) with the ECOSOC and to suspend for three years the consultative status of the Transnational Radical Party (TRP) for its abuse of the status to provide wrongful accreditation to some organizations to act against some member States of the United Nations, including Viet Nam. The committee's decision will be taken into consideration by the ECOSOC at its substantive session from June 28 to July 23 2004 in New York.

(2) The TRP has provided accreditation to Kok Ksor, President of the Montagnard Foundation Inc. (MFI), a terrorist organization, to make slanderous statements against Vietnam in the United Nations forums including the Human Rights Commission. Kok Ksor, a self-proclaimed "major general" of the FULRO (Le Front Unifie pour la Liberation des Races Opprimees), an armed terrorist organization, and the MFI incited and organized terrorist activities in an attempt to separate the Central Highlands from the Vietnamese territory to establish a so-called "Independent State of Degar." Detailed facts of such terrorist and separatist activities by Kok Ksor and the MFI could be found in the enclosed Aide-memoire and other documents.

The TRP's abuse of its consultative status by providing wrongful accreditation to Kok Ksor and the MFI, a terrorist organization, is contrary to the spirit, goals and principles of the UN Charter, and constitutes a violation of the international laws and the ECOSOC resolution 1996/31. Viet Nam is of the viewpoint that the ECOSOC should approve the recommendation by the NGOs Committee to suspend the consultative status of the TRP for the maximum time period of three years provided for under the Committee's procedures.

(3) The "Free Vietnam Alliance", an affiliation of the so-called "National Unified Front for Vietnam Liberation," was set up by a handful of Vietnamese exiles in 1990. Some groups of armed terrorists sent by this organization infiltrated into the Vietnamese territory to create a network, build up local forces and incite riots to overthrow the legitimate government of the Vietnamese people. In late 1992, they gathered a force of around 100 men in Cambodia and claimed that they could mobilize up to 20,000 members to

launch operations against Viet Nam from the Cambodian territory. However, their plots were doomed to failure.

To conceal its political aims and acts of terrorism, the FVA is working under the cloak of democracy and human rights for Vietnam. For its political motives and to incite riots, the organization represents none of the overseas Vietnamese community, but some elements hostile to the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. Vietnam requests that ECOSOC will not endorse the application of this organization for the consultative status with ECOSOC.

(4) For the above mentioned reasons and on the basis of the existing good relations between Viet Nam and the United States of America, Viet Nam kindly requests that the United States of America, as a member of the ECOSOC as its June 28th - July 23rd 2004 session in New York, will be in favor of the NGO Committee's decisions at its annual session in May, 2004, to suspend the consultative status of the Transnational Radical Party for three years and not to endorse the application of the Free Vietnam Alliance for a consultative status with the ECOSOC. In the spirit of the international cooperation in the fight against terrorism, Viet Nam hopes that the Government of the United States of America will not compromise such terrorist activities by Kok Ksor and the "Montagnard Foundation Inc."

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hanoi, June 8, 2004
End text

16. (U) Text of the MFA "Aide-Memoir"

On the Position of the Government of Socialist Republic of Viet Nam concerning the Transnational Radical Party (TPR)'s accreditation to the Montagnard Foundation Inc. (MFI) and Kok Ksor and the Free Viet Nam Alliance (FVA)'s application for ECOSOC's Consultative Status

(I) On the Transnational Radical Party (TRP)'s accreditation to MFI and Kok Ksor:

(1) Facts about MFI and Kok Ksor:

- The Montagnard Foundation Inc. (MFI) was established in 1992 in North Carolina, USA by Kok Ksor and some other remnants of FULRO- Front Unifie pour la Liberation des Races Opprimees or United Front for the Liberation of Oppressed Races - who are now residing in the U.S. FULRO was an armed organization created by foreign forces during the war against the Vietnamese people in the 1960's and 1970's. After the war ended in 1975, and during the 1980's, FULRO carried out armed terrorist activities causing heavy civilian casualties in Viet Nam;

- Kok Ksor himself used to be a soldier in the puppet army of the former South Vietnamese regime, joined the separatist FULRO in 1969, fled to Cambodia and then self-claimed "Major-General" of Fulro. In 1974, he was sent to the United States by the founder and leader of FULRO, "General" Y-bham Enoul, and has since remained in the U.S.;

- Kok Ksor has been soliciting for the so-called "Independent State of Degar." By the end of 1999, he formally announced the establishment of the so-called "an Independent State of Degar" among the exiles in North Carolina, USA and claimed himself as "President of the State," appointed former "Major General" Y Bhi Kbour, former "Chief of Staff" of the FULRO "Prime Minister's Office", as "Prime Minister", and appointed 5 other former FULRO members as "Ministers" of Defense, Foreign Affairs, Justice, Economic and Health Care and six others as "Provincial Chiefs". Kok Ksor drafted the "Guiding Principles and Instructions for the establishment of the Independent State of Degar", sent them back to Viet Nam for his accomplices to implement, in which he wrote: "To clearly state to the Communist regime that: the Guidelines of FULRO Degar have been and will be consistent, that is to carry out the struggle to demand for the independence and sovereignty of the "Government" and "Independent State of Degar" and "When it is necessary to use armed forces, we will be supported by other countries; to carry out both methods (political and armed forces) we will surely win";

- Kok Ksor and the MFI incited and prepared for the violent riots in the Central Highland in February 2001 and other violent riots in Viet Nam. He worked out plans, guidelines and sent back to Viet Nam for his accomplices to carry out. In April 2004, during the Easter holidays, from his office in South Carolina (sic), Kok Ksor and his Montagnard Foundation worked out the draft plan for demonstrations in the Central Highland. He instigated and instructed his

followers, the extremist elements in the Dak Lak and Gia Lai provinces in the Central Highland of Viet Nam, to induce, deceive and force local people to carry out violent demonstrations. The day before the demonstrations took place where banners demanding to establish a "Degar State" were displayed, on Friday, April 8, 2004, from his office in South Carolina, Kok Ksor and the MFI sent out the above mentioned Draft Plan to many international media organizations including those of Vietnamese overseas, informing them that there would be demonstrations in Viet Nam, that they had mobilized hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese to take part, that the demonstration would take several days, claimed themselves as the organizers, and called for international support and attention. Under the instructions from Kok Ksor and the MFI, the extremist elements in Dak Lak and Gia Lai used dangerous weapons to beat on-duty officers, causing serious injuries, destroyed public works and property in some communes.

(2) The Position of the Government of Viet Nam:

- The MFI with Kok Ksor as its so-called "President" is a terrorist group, whose characters are no different from those notorious terrorist groups operating in Asia, Europe, and America. . . that the international community is condemning and fighting against. MFI and Kok Ksor are now obviously carrying out activities of incitement and preparation for further violent riots in the Central Highland and other localities in Viet Nam threatening the security of Viet Nam and the safety of its people. The establishment of the so-called "Independent State of Degar" in exile with Kok Ksor as its "President" and the preparation for its formation inside Viet Nam are clearly acts of subversion that threatens the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, a member State of the United Nations. Kok Ksor's and the MFI's aims and activities are contrary to the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and violate international law;

- Therefore, the TRP's accreditation to MFI and Kok Ksor means accreditation to a terrorist group that has been engaging in subversive and politically motivated activities against the State of Viet Nam, which constitutes an abuse of its consultative status with ECOSOC and a violation of ECOSOC's Resolution 31/1996. The Government of Viet Nam, in the spirit of dialogue and cooperation, at the last three consecutive sessions of the NGO Committee, has agreed upon giving the TRP the opportunities to understand the matter by asking them through the Committee to prepare special reports to explain their acts. While the question is still under consideration of the Committee and its continued accreditation to the MFI and Kok Ksor only demonstrate that the TRP's abuse and violation are deliberate and in disrespect of this Committee on NGO's.

- In the legitimate security interest of Viet Nam, a member State of the United Nations, in the interest of the United Nations and of the Committee on NGO's, Viet Nam requested that the TRP's consultative status with ECOSOC be suspended until it cancels its accreditation to the terrorist MFI and Kok Ksor. And at its May 21, 2004 session, the Non-governmental Committee of the ECOSOC endorsed Viet Nam's recommendation to suspend the TRP's consultative status with the ECOSOC for three years. We do hope that all the member States of the ECOSOC will approve the recommendation by the NGO Committee at the coming substantive session of the ECOSOC from June 28 - July 23, 2004 at the UN Headquarters in New York.

(II) On the application of Free Viet Nam Alliance (FVA) for ECOSOC's Consultative Status

(1) Facts on the FVA:

- FVA is an affiliation to the so-called "National Unified front for Viet Nam Liberation" established abroad in 1982. Members of this organization were those working for the former regime of South of Viet Nam who after 1975 went into exile. The name "National Unified Front for Viet Nam Liberation" itself manifests its subversive and sabotage nature. During the 1980's, this organization carried out terrorist activities not only in Viet Nam, but also against overseas Vietnamese in the form of blackmail and assassination. Some groups of armed terrorists sent by this organization infiltrated into Viet Nam with an aim to create their network, build up armed forces and incite riots to overthrow the legitimate Government of Viet Nam. By the end of 1992, they gathered a force of around 100 armed thugs in Cambodia and boasted they could rally up to 20,000 members to stage acts of sabotage against Viet Nam from the Cambodian territory. Most of them were either killed or captured and put on trials. The self-claimed "President" of this organization Hoang Co Min together with his group was intercepted and he was killed while staging such an infiltration. Many of this organization's illegal activities have been under investigation by the FBI in the

U.S. In 1992, it was in the FBI's list of supporters and planners of criminal activities, among them drug trafficking from Asia to America.

- This organization has several affiliations in countries like the U.S.A., France, Australia and others under different names such as "National Movement for Resistance Support" or "Party of New Viet Nam". TO conceal it acts of sabotage and subversion, FVA is now camouflaging itself under the cloak of democracy and human rights. It frequently provides false and fabricated information in an attempt to smear Viet Nam, thus undermining the unity and solidarity among the Vietnamese people. Neither, this organization represents any of the overseas Vietnamese than some elements hostile towards the new State of Viet Nam simply for the fact that 30 years after the war ended in Viet Nam, they have not been able to reconcile.

(2) The Position of the Government of Viet Nam:

- Acts of sabotage and incitements to overthrow the legitimate Government of a member state of the United Nations are criminal and illegal. Those acts by the FVA constitute obstructions to the cause of economic, cultural and social development in Viet Nam, an aim the United Nations and the ECOSOC are striving for. Its aims go against the very spirit, purposes and principles of the charter of the United Nations and of ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31. FVA must not be accorded consultative status with the ECOSOC. As a result, at the request of Viet Nam, the Committee on NGOs considered and decided to reject the application of the FVA for a consultative status with the ECOSOC. Viet Nam believes that all the members of the ECOSOC will be in favor of that decision at its substantive session in July, 2004 in New York.

Hanoi, 8 June 2004

End text.
PORTER